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Construction of a dam across Maharajasamudram river.

* 293 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have received a petition from the ryots of Sockkampettai village in Alangudi taluk of Pudukkottai Division, Tiruchirappalli district, suggesting the construction of an anicut and a dam in Maharajasamudram river and to divert water through Vettaikudi Pudhukolam and the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"The answer is in the negative."

Relief works in Chittoor district.

* 293-A Q.—SRI G. C. KONDAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Chittoor district the bund work of tanks situated on either side of the road was taken up two days prior to His Excellency the Governor's visit and stopped two days after that?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"The works were taken up as part of the 1952–53 programme of relief works and their taking up coincided with the visit of the Governor in April 1952 by sheer accident. The works were not stopped. They were pushed through and completed in due course."

SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH:—"In view of the fact that the works have been stopped throughout the Chittoor district—I have personally seen it and I can bear witness to it—will the Government enquire into the matter again and give us correct information?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"As the hon. Member is not in the witness box, I cannot cross-examine him or cross-answer him."

Cultivation of waste lands in Narasapur taluk.

* 293-B Q.—SRI B. LAKSHMINARASA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Harijans and Backward classes in Narasapur taluk who are cultivating Government waste lands for dalwa this year, the number of these people who were given pattas and the number of those who are not as yet given;

(b) how many of these people were levied penalties at the rate of Rs. 80 per acre and to what extent; and

(c) how many of these ryots were levied penalties at the rate of 16 times wet and more for dalwa cultivation this year?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"(a) to (c) The Government have no information in the matter but have called for the same from the Collector and his reply is awaited."

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Sri A. M. RATNASWAMI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in a number of cases, waste lands under cultivation by landless people who spent their meagre resources on them, were forcibly taken away from them by the revenue officials and given either to demobilised personnel or to political sufferers? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I have no information and how can I answer the question."

Sri B. LAKSHMINARASA RAJU :—" ఈ లెక్కలు యింకా ఎంత కాలంలో వసూలుచేసి చెప్పగలరా ? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Please translate it into English."

Sri T. NAGI REDDI :—" The hon. Member's question is, how long will it take for the Government to give this information? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I cannot exactly say but I will try my best to get it as early as possible."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" It has become a common feature for the Hon. Minister to reply that 'he has no information.' If answer is not forthcoming to a particular question, that question need not be included in the list of questions for the day. Otherwise, it is a waste of time for those who put the questions."

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, it is better that I explain the position. The Hon. Speaker desired that questions should not be delayed. Even when information is being collected at least a tentative answer, he suggested, may be given and this would take only half a second of the time of the House.

Sri T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I suggest that these questions should not, by reason of this kind of answer, be treated as fully answered, but that proper answers may be given to them later on, when the information is collected, taking it for granted that we have renewed notice of the question? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has not understood what the Hon. Chief Minister has stated. We give seven days' time for the Government to answer a question."

Sri T. NAGI REDDI :—" Have we to give fresh notice of the question again? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Yes. Hon. Members must give fresh notice."

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Now when the question is answered in this way, namely, that the Government have no information on the subject, does it mean that the question has already been answered? If it is considered as having been answered, to elicit the same information notice will have to be renewed. Then the difficulty arises, namely, the order of the question will be far behind as it has to take its place after other questions. Therefore, if the Government are not in a position to answer a

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question, it is better not to put it on the order paper of the day but allow it to come in the normal course later on when the answer is ready."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The Hon. Speaker might consider the question. We were only obeying the directives of the Hon. Speaker. If he thinks that some other procedure is to be followed, it may be followed."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Within seven days the Government will send the answer. If the Government fails to send answers within seven days we send reminders to the Government for getting the answer."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Sir, I rise on a point of order. Will it not be possible to fix a maximum period to get the information for the questions? " 11-20 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yes, it is there already. It is seven days. As soon as that period of seven days is over, we issue a reminder to Government."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Sir, I rise on a point of information. You were pleased to say that a time of seven days has been fixed for furnishing information called for in the questions. As a matter of fact, I have given notice of a number of questions, about twenty, for which I have not received any reply except for one question."

MR. SPEAKER :—" There are questions for which Government require a long time to furnish the information."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" May I say, Sir, that while there are 375 members to put questions, only a very few people are there to reply to those questions ! "

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, cannot we set up a precedent here in this way : In cases where the Government say they are not able to furnish the information and want more time to get the information, why not we say that such questions do not automatically lapse, but that they continue to be in force and the Government will answer them as soon as they get the information? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I would suggest another way. In such cases, when the information called for is received, we will send it in writing to the Member concerned, and then, if he likes he may put another question."

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is a good idea, and I hope the House will accept it."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" We cannot accept it, Sir. Because the Hon. Chief Minister always makes a very sweet suggestion." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" And generally to receive bitter replies."

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Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" Then what happens is, the House will not have an opportunity to put supplementary questions. So I would suggest that as soon as the Government get the information the question may be put on the agenda."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" In England the practice is, the Member concerned can write to the Government and get the reply."

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" I think we can follow a better practice and better procedure than in England."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I have received notice of 2,013 questions, and of these, as the House knows, only for 290 and odd questions has the answer been received. The number of questions has increased enormously this time, more than in previous years."

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" When the House has been democratically elected, questions are bound to increase. It is also a fact that while there are 375 members to put questions, there are only 15 Ministers to answer them. May I remind Government that there are lakhs of Government servants to assist them? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Does not the hon. Member know that there are six crores of people who are calling for work from the lakhs of Government servants. May I remind him they are there not merely for answering the questions of the hon. Members of this House by carrying on a mad hunt, a research into past references, past records and past history? They have to carry on their regular work. Apart from all that, I once again make my suggestion, not merely trying to be sweet. But the Leader of the Opposition will not accept my reasonable suggestion. What is his difficulty? Is not his difficulty a plea for the vested interests of other Members to put supplementary question? "

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" I submit it is not a case of vested interests. When a Member puts a question and he gets the information, he can put a supplementary question on that, and the other Members also have a right to put supplementary questions. It is a democratic right conferred by the Constitution to put interpellations. Therefore there is no use of flinging at our face the term ' vested interests ' so often, as the Hon. Chief Minister has been doing. I am sorry he has been using that term very often. And of course, I take it, he has said it in good humour. I suppose the Rules Committee will be formed shortly, and there we can decide this issue."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I shall now pass on to the next question."

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Order, order." (Laughter.)

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I must clear the atmosphere, if not the position. Here is the Leader of the Opposition who argues that because every Member has a right to put supplementary question when a question is answered on the floor of the House, that right must be preserved even when full information is furnished later in writing to the Member who put the question. May I not inquire of him whether that is not really a claim of a vested interest as against the primary interest of the person concerned? "

Representations from the Harijans of Jami Golivipalli village regarding house-sites.

* 293-C *Q*.—SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations from the Harijans of Jami Golivipalli village, Gudivada taluk, Krishna district, were received through the Welfare Officer, Krishna district for the grant of house-sites;

(*b*) if so, how many of the requests of the above Harijans were acceded to; and

(*c*) how many applications for house-sites were received from the Harijans in Krishna district and how many of them were disposed of favourably?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) & (*b*) An application for house-sites was made by the Harijans of Jami Golivipalli in 1948. The acquisition of 4·20 acres of land for providing house-sites for 100 Harijans was sanctioned and the proposal is pending the approval of the draft declaration under section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act.

" (*c*) Since the beginning of 1950, 203 applications were received by the Collector and in 108 cases acquisition of house-sites has been sanctioned. So far, 356 plots of house-sites were handed over to the Harijans."

SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" Sir, land was surveyed in Jami Golivipalli village for the Harijans; plots were divided; necessary money was deposited by the Harijans; notices also were issued to the landowners that their lands would be acquired; but the lands were not handed over to the Harijans till now. Because of this delay, so many complications arose in that village. It was the cause of a murder of a Harijan leader by name V. Samuel by some of the owners of the lands proposed for house-sites. So may I request the Hon. Minister to take necessary steps and expedite summary procedure for the acquisition of house-sites without unnecessary delay? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, since the beginning of 1950, 203 applications were received by the Collector and in 108 cases acquisition of house-sites has been